



**Fourmile Creek Watershed Management Authority  
Meeting Minutes**

**April 23, 2015 AT 4:00 PM**

Public Services Building

City of Ankeny

220 W. 1<sup>st</sup> Street

Ankeny, Iowa

Those in attendance were as follows: Cindy Valin, Dale Farnham, Richard Long, Vern Willey, Frank Cownie, Bret Vandelune, Ben Champ, Gary Lorenz, Jennifer Welch, Karen Oppelt, Amy Bryant, Mark Arentsen, Bob Mahhaffey, Dan Pritchard, Mark Land, Kyle Riley, Amanda Oswald, Clifford Leonard, Ric Long, Madeline Sturms, Skip Moore, Teva Dawson, and Rich Leopold.

1. Welcome – Frank Cownie opened the meeting.
2. Officer Elections – Officers need to be nominated and all officers currently serving are still eligible to serve another term. Dale Farnham motioned to discuss each position individually and Gary Lorenz seconded the motion. Current officers were asked if they were willing to serve an additional term and all four were willing. Officers were elected as follows, with first and second motion listed after the officer's name with motion carrying.
  - i. Chair – Frank Cownie, Des Moines (Gary Lorenz, Mark Arentsen)
  - ii. Vice Chair – Ben Champ, Pleasant Hill (Vern Willey, Bret Vandelune)
  - iii. Secretary – Gary Lorenz, Ankeny (Ben Champ, Cindy Valin)
  - iv. Treasurer – Cindy Valin, Polk SWCD (Vern Willey, Ben Champ)
3. Approval of January 29, 2015 Meeting Minutes – Change date on minutes to 2015. Cindy Valin motioned to approve with change, Vern Willey seconded, and motion carried.
4. Fourmile Creek Watershed Management Plan  
The group spent time discussing the Watershed Management Plan. Rich Leopold shared information regarding the monitoring meeting that occurred prior to the quarterly meeting. It was recommend to eliminate references in the plan to specific pollutant limits until we have data to support future improvements. The group also discussed bacteria sampling and how important it is to have a QA/QC plan in place to make sure that we get credible data. Polk County Conservation intends to begin monitoring in June. They are starting the plan, but wants others to get involved. There was a recommendation to form a subcommittee

just to discuss the bacteria parameter. Mark Land suggested putting out an annual report regarding data that is supported by the urban and rural sectors and have credible data or a review of the data once per year. Rich indicated that the data should have a dual purpose: provide a red-flag network and provide trend analysis; which shows when something is majorly wrong.

Snyder passed out a proposed FCWMA Implementation Structure that breaks out the association into eight groups to create energy and interest to keep momentum going. They also passed out a future meeting agenda that can be used as a starting point for future meetings. The grant supporting Snyder's work ends at the end of July. Gary Lorenz suggested that more buy-in from local government entities would be a way to continue interest in the organization and get common development practices and protection of the 500-year flood plain established throughout the jurisdictions.

The group spent some time discussing a future watershed coordinator. There were conversations on where that individual could be housed and coordinating between the three local exiting watershed organizations to combine funding for this position. It was suggested to get the three executive committees of these organizations to get together to get everyone on the same page. MPO agreed to facilitate the meeting between the three.

5. Other Items for Discussion – No other items were discussed at this time.
6. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned by a motion from Vern Willey, seconded by Dale Farnham.